

San Diego DX Club Bulletin



January 2015



JANUARY PROGRAM

Gordon Shackelford, AE6QW

Ultra High Performance HF Receivers: \$1K to \$18K Really?

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2015

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,
San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

MEETING, 6:30 P.M.

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A Word from the Prez . . .



Greetings members!

I hope this finds everyone in good spirits and that the New Year has started off just right for you!

The San Diego DX Club wishes to thank Bob Farkaly, K9RHY, for putting this newsletter and future newsletters together for us. It will be interesting to hear how Ron Stockton is doing now that he has all the time he wants to chase DX.

The January meeting will be at The Sizzler. Gordon Shackelford, AE6QW, will give a presentation on Ultra High Performance HF Receivers: \$1K to \$18K ~ Really! Please join us for an evening of fun, food and camaraderie!

It's been three years in the making since the Rockall DX Group first started working on an expedition to Iran. They are now active from Kish Island (AS166) and will be there through the 31st. Iran isn't all that rare at #34 on the most wanted list. It will be a new one (ATNO) for some in the club and fill band slots for others. Keep an ear on the radio or eye on the cluster for EP6T <http://www.qrz.com/db/EP6T> You can read about this effort on their website <http://www.rockall.be/> and their log <http://www.clublog.org/charts/?c=EP6T>

C5X from The Gambia is also on and they've had *okay* signals here. The nice thing is that they are uploading to ClubLog and LoTW daily. <http://www.clublog.org/charts/?c=C5X> You can check Bill Feidt's, NG3K, website to see what other operations are on or coming soon. <http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

The 66th International DX Convention - April 17-19, 2015 - is open for general registration and early banquet seating is available. Here's the link for the latest news <http://dxconvention.com/pages/news.html>

Here are a couple YouTube links about the planning of the E6 operation: One is at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-TXNJsmzmA> and the other at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XI7-a-DOWg>

The CQ 160 meter Contest CW contest is on Jan 23-25

Please remember that the club's newsletter is only as good as the information the editor receives, so please take the time to submit any DX related stories, tall tales, and musings of a madman or crazy lady for his consideration. Let's help Bob, K9RHY, start off with a bang. K9RHY@ARRL.NET

73 & 88's to the pretty ones!

Wild Bill, WB6BFG

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk." Thomas Edison

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Ellen, N6UWW



Secretary's Report

John , NA6L and his wife Denise, KJ6JAL did a wonderful job in coordinating the San Diego DX Club Holiday Party on December 14th. Fiddler's Green Restaurant on Shelter Island, opened only to our group for the afternoon, provided a wonderful setting on a beautiful December day. The salmon, chicken or beef entrees were delicious, the service impeccable & those in attendance (28) all agreed that at \$13/person (plus the \$13/person the Club sponsored) it was a great value. Thanks to John and Denise for their efforts.

Treasurer's Report

Statement Balance: 12/31/2014 \$5786.89

Deposit 1/16/2015 \$634 (\$364 Holiday Party admission fees, \$270 2015 dues payments)

Dues were due December 31. Dues become delinquent January 31. Reminder e-mails were sent January 16.

Many thanks to those members (AR, EAZ, GO, IHV, JAC, KH, MB, MHZ, MUF, R,VM, YI, YOO, BFG and UWW) who have already paid.

Dues checks can be sent (payable to San Diego DX Club Inc) to:

Ellen Utschig
2104 Poplar Rd
Oceanside, CA 92058-2332

Ellen, N6UWW

From the (New/Old) Editor

Bob, K9RHY



It's great to be back!

But before I talk more about current events, I'd like to lead a big shout-out for Ron Stockton, NØRR, who took over as editor of the SDDXC Bulletin when I left San Diego. Ron has done an absolutely fantastic job of producing the Bulletin month after month and I want to add my congratulations and thanks to those of the other Club members who feel exactly the same way about Ron's efforts.

Thanks, Ron, for the hard work and for doing a great job!

When we moved away from San Diego, my wife and I were looking for a more relaxed lifestyle. We found it in Knoxville in the heart of Southeast Tennessee. Knoxville is a great place to enjoy life - certainly DXing without Poway antenna restrictions - but also dining, outdoor living, friendly neighbors and a mild, four-season climate. I was able to put more new IOTA counters in the logbook in 2014 than in almost any year before.

But retiring also gave me the gift of more free time, but not without many demands to fill in my new-found leisure hours. And just as nature abhors a vacuum, forces beyond my control worked overtime to absorb my free time. One of the first was our own SDDXC President, Wild Bill. Wild Bill called me one afternoon between Thanksgiving and Christmas and asked me to take the handoff from Ron as Bulletin editor. It was an easy decision for me as it allows me to keep in touch with my SoCal friends and "Big Gun" DXers.

As before, I'll do my best to keep the Bulletin full of news and events as well as the content produced by our Club's officers. I'll also do my best to add my own (hopefully) in-depth commentary of hot DX-related topics.

As you'll see, this month I couldn't resist writing about a DXpedition to one of the rarest-of-the-rare entities on the ARRL DXCC list. Navassa Island. I invite you to check it out.

For now, thanks to Wild Bill for the opportunity to stay in touch.

Bob, K9RHY



Navassa Island, K1N, 2015

If you have a son or daughter who will become eligible to vote (legally) in 2015, your child was born AFTER the most-recent Navassa Island operation was completed. Wherever you are in the world, if you started as a DXer 22 years ago (after January 1992), Navassa Island is among your #1 Most Wanted Entities.

As this edition of the SDDXC Bulletin goes to press, we are on the verge of the eagerly-anticipated DXpedition to Navassa Island, one of the ARRL DXCC program's Most Wanted Entities. Not only has it been 22 years since the last operation, the US Fish and Wildlife Service won't permit another operation for at least ten years.

Activating Navassa is a VERY Big Deal in the DX world, so I thought you might be entertained by a short story about the Island.

When I decided to write this piece, I thought it might be interesting to start with a brief history lesson about previous Navassa Island operations. That proved to be a good entry point because the ham radio history surrounding Navassa is long and interesting.

As usual, my first stop was my own QSL card collection. My collection goes back to the WØRJU/KP1 operation in November/December 1978. I've worked three other Navassa Island operations – and I knew a bit about them – but I became curious about operations before WØRJU/KP1.

I thought another good starting point was the date Navassa Island became an official DXCC Entity in November, 1954. QST that month announced the addition of Navassa Island to the DXCC list. According to QST: "This island is a United States possession located approximately 35 miles due west of Haiti, 80 miles due east north-east of Jamaica and 110 miles due south of Caimanera, Cuba".

QST goes on to say that "DXCC credit will be given starting January 1, 1955 for creditable confirmations dated on or after November 15, 1945."

DXCC NOTES

Announcement is hereby made of the addition to the ARRL Postwar Countries List of Navassa Island. This island is a United States possession located approximately 35 miles due west of Haiti, 80 miles due east northeast of Jamaica and 110 miles south of Caimanera, Cuba.

DXCC credit will be given starting January 1, 1955, for creditable confirmations dated on or after November 15, 1945. Confirmations received prior to January 1, 1955, for this country will be returned without credit.

In future ARRL DX Competitions, those making contact with amateur stations located on Navassa Island may claim credit for a separate country in line with DXCC rules.

KC4 was the initial prefix assigned to Navassa. The first operation from Navassa I, in the post-WWII period, was KC4AB, operated by W4VZQ, W4QCW and WN4HBC, in 1954.

The prefix for Navassa Island was later changed to KP1. The first operation using the KP1 prefix was the N0TG/KP1 and W0RJU/KP1 DXpedition in November and December, 1978.

My search for the first Navassa Island operation ground to a halt with the KC4AB operation that lasted just three days in August, 1954. The KC4AB operation was the first post-WWII operation.

I had about given up on looking back in time for an earlier Navassa Island operation until I happened across a piece written by Russell Dunaja, W3BBF (SK) and printed in the December, 1969 edition of QST. Having first-hand experience with the subject, Russell reported that the first operation from Navassa Island (before Navassa was added to the ARRL DXCC list) was in 1928 using the call K4NI.

A bit of his interesting story is reproduced here:

The power supply here was a 110 Vdc Delco plant with storage batteries and also a Bull Dog gas engine belted to a 4 kW 110 Vdc generator. The transmitter was a 2 kW Navy Standard quenched spark set with a 500-cycle motor generator. The antenna was a "L" type flat top 4-wire from the 160-foot lighthouse tower to a 60-foot telephone pole. The receiver was a Navy Standard with 2 stages of audio. The frequencies were 355 kc. and 500 kc. and with heavy static NAW Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, could not be worked. Our call was WWEA and later WSZ.

About this time the UX 222 screen grid tube came out and one was ordered. A tin cracker box with a hinged top was used and a shield partition was soldered in. The coils were wound on old tube bases. The detector was a UV 199 with the UX 222 rf Stage. This was hooked up to the two-stage audio amplifier. All kinds of SW broadcast stations were picked up so the coils were trimmed to 14 Mc band and stations all over the world were heard.

The next thing was get permission to put up the amateur station and the call K4NI was received. An 852 was ordered and also a Cardwell 500 μ F transmitting condenser. With plenty of 3/8-inch copper tubing on hand a high-C Hartley coil was wound. A 12V storage battery was used for the filament and a 3000-volt tap was taken off the spark transformer (Spare transformer). The antenna was an 80-meter Zepp from the top of the tower to a 60-foot telephone pole. The spreaders for the feeders were wood boiled in beeswax. The power was 500 cycles ac but due to the high-C circuit the wave was not too broad. Hundreds of amateurs all over the world were worked and a schedule was kept with NKF at Washington, D. C. Tests with NKF were run and wavelength was lowered until we were on 13 meters which was as low as the transmitter would go (capacitor all the way out). Later, tests with an SM station was tried and it was possible to work him with only a 45V "B" battery for plate supply. That changed me to dc and I sent home for my surplus aircraft dynamotor (1500V, 233mA), which was belted to the big MG set and I went on the air with pure dc.



Presented below is a summary of the known operations from Navassa Island:

Navassa Island Operations	
KC4	Date/Note
K4NI	1928 - April - through 1929
KC4AB	1954 - August (three days only). First post-WWII operation
W2HQL/KC4, W2IWC/KC4	1957 - June (one day only)
KC4AF	1958 - March
K4IA/KC4	1969 - June
W4VPD/KC4	1969 - August
W0EXD/KC4	1971 - February
K4CSY/KC4	1971 - July
KC4DX	1972 - May
KC4NI	1974 - November
KP1	
N0TG/KP1, W0RJU/KP1	1978 - November/December. First KP1 operation.
KP2A/KP1, N200/KP1, K1MEM/KP1	1982 - March
6Y5FS/KP1, 6Y5NR/KP1	1985 - April
N2EDF/NP1, K2SG/NP1	1988 - February
AA4NC/KP1, AA4NC/WP1, AA4VK/KP1, AA4VK/WP1,	1992 - January
KW2P/KP1, N0TG/KP1, WA4DAN/KP1	
K0IYF/KP1, KH2S/KP1, KH2W/KP1, KH2Y/KP1,	1993 - March/April
NF6S/KP1, VE1AOE/KP1, W5IJU/KP1	
Other	
K1N	2015 - January/February
Operations that didn't count	
K1IMP/KC4	1966 - August/September
HH0N	1981 - July
W4VN/5	1989 - March
N1V	1998 - planned operation that did not happen



Some pics from the SDDX 2014 Holiday Party



Some pics from the SDDX 2014 Holiday Party

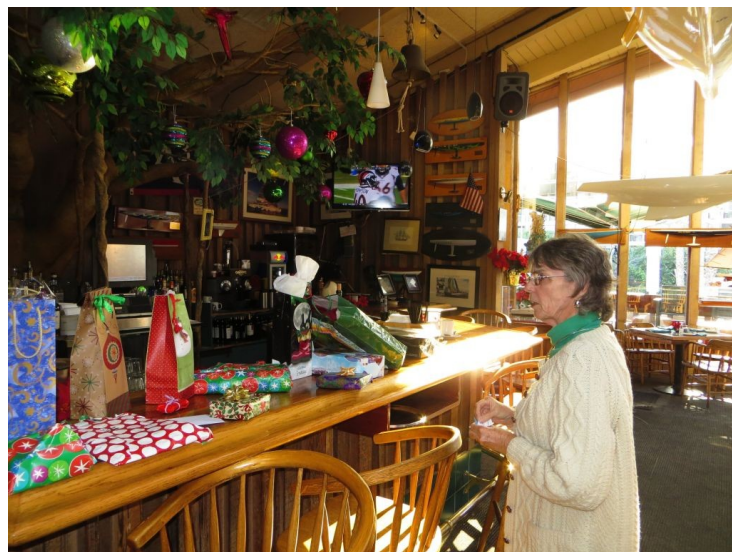




Some pics from the SDDX 2014 Holiday Party



Some pics from the SDDX 2014 Holiday Party



Congratulations W6H crew!

Operators: KD6HYN N6EEG N6ERD N6KI NA6MB

NN6X W2PWS WB6NBU WQ6X

Station: NX6T

Club: San Diego Contest Club

Class: **M/S HP**

QTH: Fallbrook, CA

Operating Time (hrs): 20

Location: USA

Summary:

Band	QSOs	Mults
------	------	-------

80:	20	16
-----	----	----

40:	391	46
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20:	71	27
-----	----	----

15:	135	38
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10:	48	27
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Total:	665	154	Total Score 112,882
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Hints and Kinks

During the past two months I have incrementally replaced our high use, high wattage incandescent light bulbs with LED bulbs. The primary motivator is to reduce energy costs in the face of rising electric rates. Because my wife's studio is located at our home, the 21 75-watt work space lights consistently put us in the SDGE Tier 4 rate category. Although LED bulb prices are dropping steadily, I decided now is the time to replace the energy-hungry incandescents because I calculated a 24-month return on investment at current SDGE Tier 4 electric rates.

The key advantages of LED bulbs are: 1) a nearly 7:1 savings in energy consumption compared to an equivalent incandescent wattage; 2) an extremely low heat output, which has the secondary benefit of reducing A/C costs in the warmer months; and 3) a life expectancy of 1 – 2 decades depending on model. As an example, I replaced many 75-watt (PAR38) incandescent bulbs with 90W LEDs that consume 13.2 Watts. The result is more lumens with an 82% reduction in energy costs. In addition to the large 75W spot/flood lights, I have installed many 60W (BR30s), 100W, 60W and 40W bulbs. I used the CREE brand sold at Home Depot. To retain the warm light of incandescent bulbs, use the 2700 or 3000K LEDs.

The purpose of this note is to report on the RF noise properties of these LEDs in view of the horror stories with CFLs and more recently low voltage lighting with poor quality switching power supplies. My concern was that LEDs operate on DC and therefore have a built-in rectifier (i.e., DC power supply) circuit. (See *Light Emitting Noisemaker*, QST, October 2014, page 62).

My tests were simple, but meaningful. I measured the average noise floor in dBm on 80m and 10m during quiet periods. I then turned all the LED bulbs in the house and re-examined the noise floor within a minute of the initial readings. I can accurately report that I did not see any increase in noise level on either band. My tests do NOT prove that there is no noise generated between 4 and 27.999 MHz, so that proof is left to the student as homework. However, I will test on 40 and 20m soon, but I am reasonably confident that these power supplies are clean in the middle portion of the HF spectrum as well.

Ron NØRR

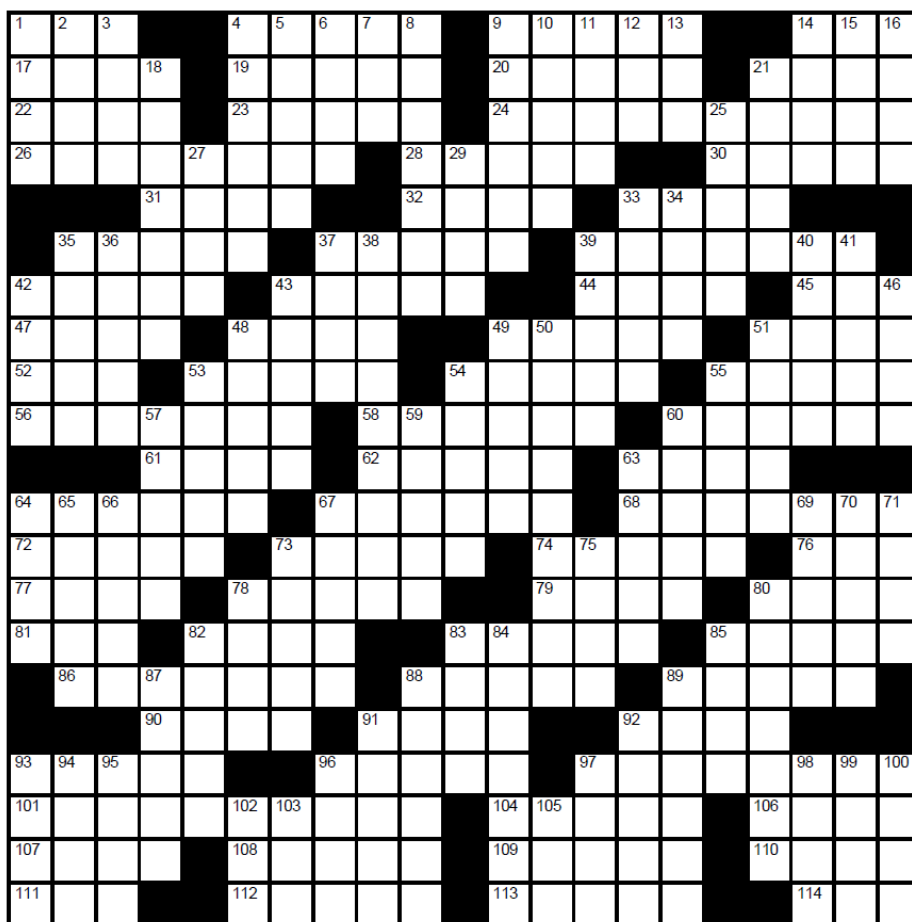


Field of Beams

by Chris Codella, W2PA

Across

1. UHF units
4. Writes glowingly, about a new rig, say
9. Radiosport, for short
14. Elemental do nothing, on a computer, to a coder
17. Missing a DXCC entity
19. Peoria prefix, possibly
20. Peru prefix, possibly
21. In real-time
22. EU ham org.
23. Location, operating /MM
24. Describes 26, 64, 68, 101 across, and 8, 50 and 89 down.
26. 2000
28. Nows older partner
30. Might be taken before a one or after a nine
31. News opposite
32. Feathers prep
33. Digital mode
35. Dot type
37. KH6 dipole supports?
39. Caught illegally, or cooked what you caught
42. Angles
43. Hay bunches
44. Mascara site
45. Type of screw or bolt
47. New England hams
48. Temporary cover
49. UA nobility, once
51. Bucket
52. AGC between slow and fast, on some rigs
53. Top scorer list limit
54. G elevators
55. QC px.
56. Home for parts
58. Hands on hips
60. Newington station
61. Mobile ham tracker
62. Zagreb ID starter
63. Big knob label
64. 2010
67. Ornaments
68. 2002
72. In the ether
73. PA transistor heat removers



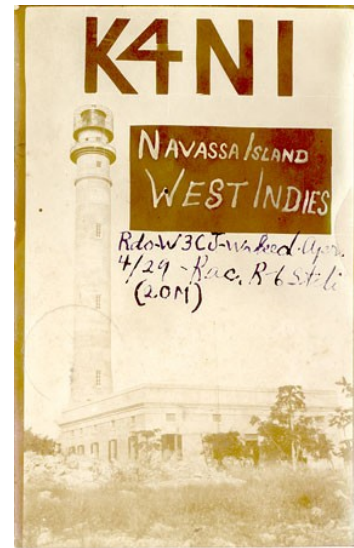
74. Bhutan prefix
76. Wireless beverage?
77. Es
78. Church ends
79. F-land river bank
80. Blog entry
81. QR followers
82. Floor PTT: _____ switch
83. Setting
85. 9H-land
86. Short contests
88. 9N1MM
89. Post-holiday mail, say
90. YVO island
91. TZ-land
92. HV flashovers
93. B-plus place
96. JX last name
97. One-word advice in "The Graduate"
101. 2014
104. Lid (in the non-ham world, maybe)
106. Molecule part
107. Course numbers
113. Highly praise
114. Stor.
108. Seas on the moon
109. S2 martial art
110. Work an "insurance" QSO?
111. With "waves" propagated signals, slangily
112. "Who am I ____?"

Down

1. Earth conn. pts.
2. Make well
3. Tune into, with "beat"
4. 9X neighborhood
5. Pros opposites
6. DXpedition prerequisite, sometimes
7. Benz ender. Graph ender, too.
8. 1990
9. Stalks on an antenna farm
10. Works for pay
11. Lids after having a few?
12. Packet radio ckt.
13. WAE SSB mo.
14. FB
15. K, spoken
16. CE, CO, or CX cash
18. Battery measure
21. Tired, wired antenna?
25. Elemental memory circuit
27. Like deer, but bigger
29. Probable solvers of this puzzle
33. Surf sounds
34. Former (and part of current) UA news org.
35. Contester's emotion when lightning hits tower at T-minus 1 minute
36. Small change
37. Component
38. Bahrain beginning, phonetically
39. Philosophy 101 subject
40. Carry away, in a way
41. Cross-needle meter maker
42. Freebie
43. 40, 20, and The Beatles
46. What old rigs do
48. ___ firma
49. 555 function
50. 1996
51. Prison-related
53. Endangered animal resembling a swine

54. B, C, and S, for example, in classic radio
55. Nfld. px.
57. Desert sight
59. Hints partner
60. Plano prefix, possibly
63. Namibia, or an odd Engine
64. 1-down connectors
65. GHz, for example
66. Awoke
67. CW style variations
69. Ring shaped reef, e.g. 8Q7
70. Bird abodes
71. Info, e.g. sent via PSK31
73. Cluster items
75. OH op.
78. CW
80. Matcher maker
82. Nigeria prefix
83. Single op?
84. 1950s radio paint style
85. SSB inp. devices
87. Numbers to watch during the contest
88. SOS of SSB
89. 2006
91. Craze
92. Even if, briefly
93. NPN complements
94. Grid resistor function
95. Not straight
96. Elser-Mathes Cup QSO target
97. Short shot
98. Thing in a catalog, say
99. Morse, for example
100. 1A-land (abbrev.)
102. Prime time
103. XW ham
105. W6 airport, briefly

Some Navassa Island QSL cards



NAVASSA ISLAND
KC4NI


CONFIRMING QSO/S WITH: W8KCY

Band MHz	Date 197/	Time, GMT	RST	SSB P1	CW P1
1.8					
3.5					
7					
14					
21					
28	27 Nov	1718	59	X	Good



Some Navassa Island QSL cards

Greetings from **NAVASSA-KP1** ZONE 8
NORTH AMERICA




KP2A


DX-PEDITION

KIMEM — Jim KP2A — John Operators: W2JUB — Ed W2MOE — Stu N200 — Bob
 N6CW — Terry KBCW — Al W8DQ — Bob K900 — Pat


TO STATION	CONFIRMING QSO						
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	GMT	MHZ.	2-WAY	RST
K8CX	21	MARCH	1982	1653	28	CW	599






TELEX hygain
TELECOMMUNICATIONS



TIME
BENCHER, INC.



RADIO UNLIMITED
SOMERSET, N.J.








QSL CARDS
DONATED BY:


1978 NAVASSA ISLAND DX-PEDITION

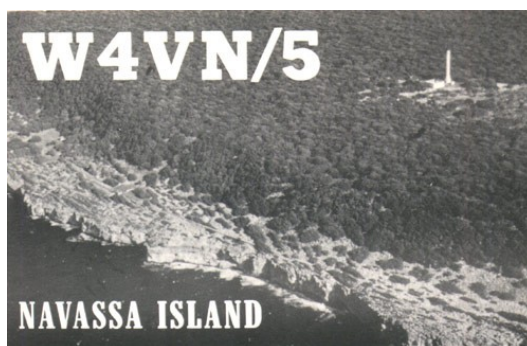
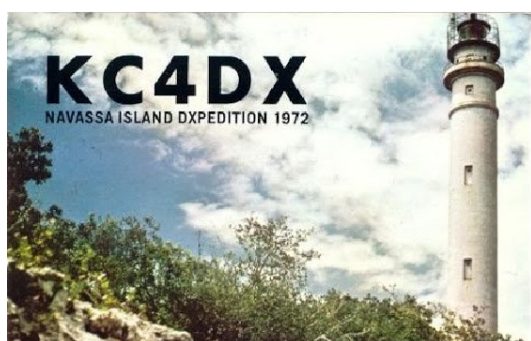
WØRJU/KP1



NORTHERN
CALIFORNIA
FOUNDATION INC.

QSL TO NØTG



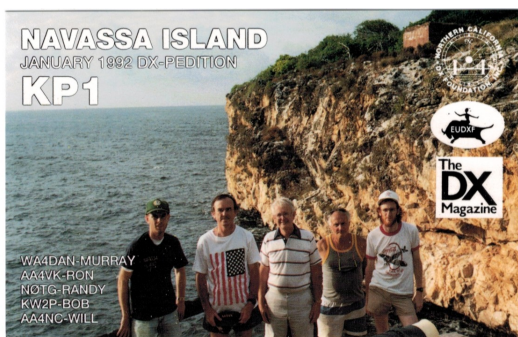


NAVASSA ISLAND

KC4AF

1958 DX EXPEDITION — Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Association

WAYNE GREEN, W2NSD	DON CRESSER, W4KVX	DALE STREITER, W8DJN
— OPERATORS —		
NARVEL "RED" REECE, W8EZF	JAKE SCHOTT, W8FGX	FRANK KOVAL, W8RSW



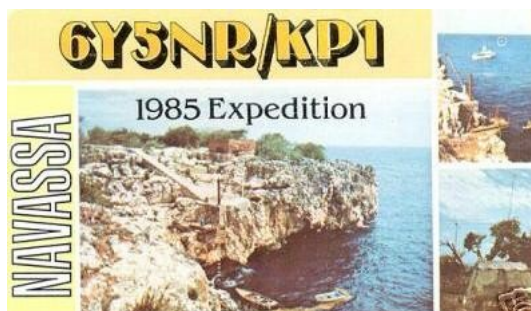
NAVASSA ISLAND

KC4AF

1958 DX EXPEDITION — Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Association

WAYNE GREEN, W2NSD DON CRESSER, WA4VK DALE STREIFER, WB2JN
— OPERATORS —


MARVEL "RED" REECE, WB2FZ JAKE SCHOTT, WB6GX FRANK KOVAL, W0RSW



QSL CARDS
DONATED BY:


1978 NAVASSA ISLAND DX-PEDITION

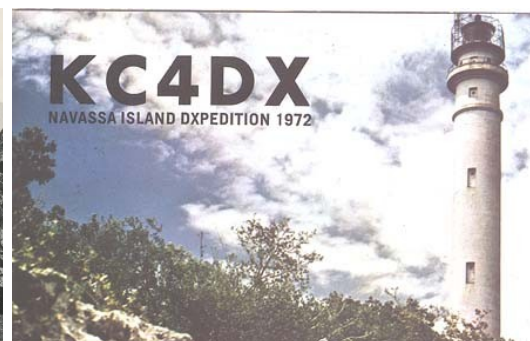
NØTG/KP1



NORTHERN
CALIFORNIA DX
FOUNDATION INC.

QSL TO NØTG





Field of Beams

